

REMARKS

The Office Action of April 3, 2007 has been carefully considered

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent to Brown et al. in view of U.S. Patent to Reba et al., are respectfully requested.

As a result of the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the feature that an acute angle end of the switch points against the conveyance direction.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the feature mentioned above.

The feature added to claim 1 is adequately disclosed in the present application as originally filed. Thus, the drawing clearly shows an acute angle end of the switch which points against the conveyance direction of the metal strip. Moreover, it is mentioned in the last two lines on page 6 of the application as filed that the free end of the

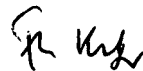
switch has the shape of two convex sides which meet at a point.

Accordingly, in view of the amendment to claim 1 and the fact that the prior art does not disclose or suggest the device as claimed in the present application, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 27, 2007.

By:  Date: July 27, 2007
Friedrich Kueffner